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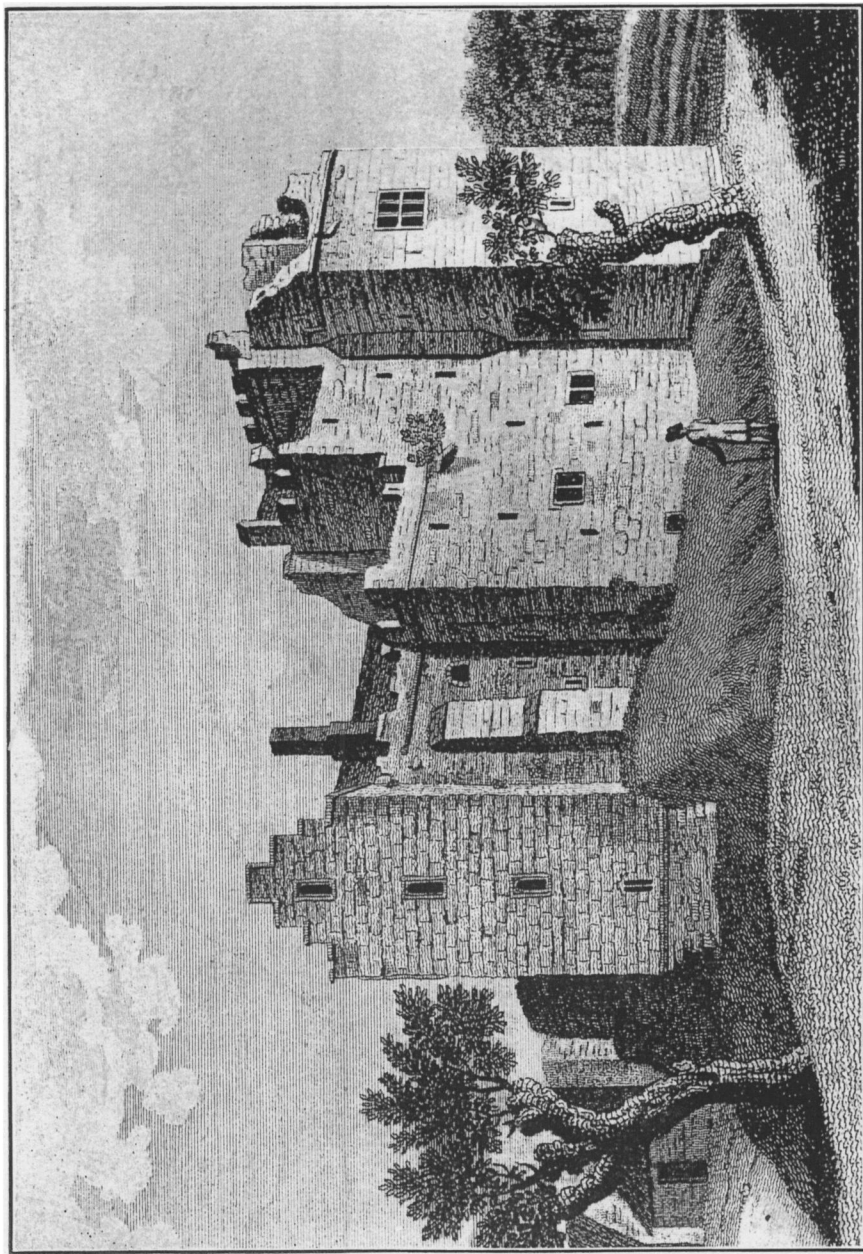
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BEVERSTONE CASTLE

From an Engraving, 1785

NOTES AND QUERIES.

(Contributed by Dr. H. J. Berkley, Baltimore, Md.)

BERKELEY OF BEVERSTONE AND EARLY COLONIAL VIRGINIA⁷

Beverstone town, which included the site of the Castle, was a part the great Manor of Berkeley, a few miles from the city of Bristol, Gloucestershire. The founding of this Castle is lost in the midst of antiquity. It is certain that it had been built at the time of Edward the Confessor, for in his day it was held by "Earle Godwin, earle, of Kent", and from its battlements floated his banners; but, how much further back its history runs is unknown.

At the time of the invasion of England by William the Conqueror, it was held by Roger de Berchelai in common with the other portions of the Berkeley demense. From this Roger descends the entire line of the Berkeleys of Berkeley through his daughter, Alice, and the son of Harding.

The pedigree of the Fritz Hardings, as compiled by A. S. Ellis, shows the first known ancestor of this line to have been Ealdnoth, horse thane under Edward the Confessor as well as Harold, who was slain in 1066, at the head of the men of Somerset, who were repelling an invasion by the sons of Harold. The son of Ealdnoth, Harding, lived in Somerset on the Manor of Meriet, and held other manors in that country. He was still alive in the time of Henry I, and at that date had four sons, of whom the second, Robert Fitz Harding, seems to have been a man of unusual ability. He was a merchant of great wealth in Bristol, held the provostship of the city, and evidently stood well in the graces of King Henry II, for from him he obtained grants of Berkeley Hernesse as well as other Manors. The Abbey of St. Augustine in Bristol was founded by him in 1142. He married Eva, sister to Durand. Both died in the year 1170.

The granting of his lands to an usurper, at once created a feud between the de Berchelaïs and the Hardings and it would seem that at times Sir Roger had the better of the strife, which was settled only by Henry II, who arranged a double marriage between the families; Robert Fitz Harding's second son, Maurice taking to wife Alice, the daughter of Sir Roger, and his son Roger, taking Helene, daughter of Robert Fitz Harding.

Thomas, Lord Berkeley, 5th in descent from Maurice, married (1st) Margaret, daughter of Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, and (2d) Katherine, daughter of Sir John Clyvedon, and widow of Sir Peter de Vele. John Berkley² 4th son of Thomas (above) had settled on him the Manor

of Beveston, purchased by his father of Thomas Ap Adam, 4 Edward III. John Berkeley was born 21 June, 1357, and died 10 Henry VI, aged 76 years. He was married three times (1) Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Betteshorne, Kt.; (2) Elinor, daughter of Sir Robert de Ashton (no issue); (3) Margaret, widow of Sir Thomas Breouse of Tetbury (no issue).

Maurice, 3rd son, but heir, of John Berkeley, married Lora, daughter of Henry, Lord Fitzhugh, and had issue: (1) Maurice, married Ann, daughter of Reginald West, Lord de la Ware (and had a son William, d. s. p.); (2) Edward, married 1st Christian, daughter of Richard Holt Esq, and 2d Alice, widow of Sir John Poyntz. Edward and Christian (Holt) Berkeley had issue: 1. Thomas, married Elizatheh Neville (and had John, d. s. p.), 2. Maurice, d. s. p., 3. William, died 5 Edward VI, married Margaret, daughter of William Paulet, Marquis of Winchester; 4. Lora, married John Blount; and other daughters.

William Berkeley had, by his marriage with Margaret Paulet, several daughters, and a son John, who dissipated the family estate, except Beverstone, and died 16 October, 24 Elizabeth. This John married Frances, daughter of Sir Nicholas Poyntz, of Acton, Gloucestershire, and had issue:

1. John², sold Beverstone Castle to Sir John Poyntz 1597, appointed to take charge of iron works in Virginia, May 11, 1621, *vice* Mr. Blewett, dead; killed in the Indian Massacre of 1622. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Snell; 2. Joan, Abbess at Brussels; 3. Katherine, married Thomas Symonds, a minister; 4. Margaret married Jasper Merricke, of Bevington.

John and Margaret (Snell) Berkeley, had issue:

1. Sir Maurice³, married Barbara, daughter of Sir Walter Longe; 2. John, unmarried 1630; 3. Henry, unmarried 1630; 4. William, unmarried 1630; 5. Edward, unmarried 1630; 6. Thomas, unmarried 1630 (all then in England); 7. Mary married ----- Conway of Gloucester; 8. Frances, born 1596, unmarried 1623; 9. Elizabeth married Sir John Sutton, Lord Dudley, Bedfordshire.

Maurice and Barbara (Longe) Berkeley had a son:

Lieutenant Edward⁴, of Coxendale, Henrico, and Southampton Hundred Va., died *ante* 1630 in Va. Came over in ships Unitie and Seafloore, 1623. He married Jane --, and had an only child, Jane⁵, who was unmarried in 1639. Jane, widow of Edward Berkeley married, secondly, Capt. Nicholas Martian, of Kiskiack (Yorktown), Burgess 1632 &c, will York Co., 1651.

NOTES.

1. Compiled from the writings of John Smith of Nibley, Historian of the House of Berkeley, Fosbrooke's History of Gloucestershire, the Visitations of Gloucestershire, Shropshire, Somerset, Leicestershire,

and London, with other authentic sources of information up to the year 1630.

2. We have not been able to determine the coat of arms of John Berkeley, of Beverstone, but it was undoubtedly that of Berkeley of Berkeley Castle, with the usual marks of cadency for a fourth son.

3. From the Records of the Virginia Company, Sir Maurice Berkeley does not appear to have accompanied his father to Virginia. February 2nd, 1624, he petitions the Council for control of the Salt Works in Virginia, also that 800 acres of land granted to his father (now deceased) be confirmed to him. This was granted and a patent issued. Shortly thereafter (in 1624) he petitions "to be set free from the Company's service, and from the salt works", which was granted.

4. In 1622, a petition was presented to the Council asking that "Sir Morrice Berkley's son and heir (Edward) might, in his father's right of adventure be made free, and admitted into the Society", which was granted. Lieut. Edward appears to have first landed at Kiskiack, where he became associated with Capt. Nicholas Martian, then to have journeyed to Coxendale, Corporation Henrico, and later settled at Southampton Hundred and Hog Island. He served on a jury of inquest in 1625, but this is the last notice of him that is to be found in any record. It is probable that he died soon thereafter, for before 1630, Captain Martian married his widow. No record of the family name of this Jane Berkeley exists. There is also no record of other children to Jane and Lieut. Berkley than Jane, the daughter who accompanied them from England, and who was then about seven years of age. In 1645, Captain Martian married Isabel Beech, and died in 1651. The three daughters of Jane Barkley and Nicholas Martian (Will. and Mary Mag. V. XII), were Elizabeth, who married George Reade; Mary, married John Scasbrooke of York Co.; and Sarah married Captain William Fuller, Governor of the Palatinate of Maryland. Accordingly, they were ancestors of both Washington and Lee.

5. Jane Berkley, the only child of Edward and Jane, appears not to have married, but lived in the household of her mother and Captain Martian. In 1639 her name is mentioned in a land patent to Nicholas Martian in Charles City County as his daughter. In the register of Bruton Church, Williamsburg, there is an entry of the death of "Jane Berkley, 1666". At that date, she would have been about 53 years of age.

[Considerations of space make it necessary to alter the Chart pedigree sent by Dr. Berkley to the form printed above.]

THE QUESTION OF FORT LOUDOUN ON RIVER TENNESSEE.

There are conflicting statements (See *e. g. Virginia Magazine of History, &c.*, XIII, 228) as to whether Virginia or South Carolina built Fort

Loudoun in Tennessee, about the year 1757. The items given below are adduced to substantiate the guess that the fort built by Virginia was at the Cherokee Town of Chota, a few miles above Fort Loudoun.

The evidence here goes to show that Virginia sent out Major Lewis to set up a stockade somewhere in the Cherokee country; that Major Lewis went to Chota with a party of artificers, built a fort very near Chota before September 1756, and then coming away reported to Governor Dinwiddie that any aid from the Cherokees was very uncertain, and that Virginia had best send no troops to garrison the fort until the Cherokees talked more to the point; that no garrison was sent by Virginia to man the fort erected at the expense of Virginia; that shortly after September 1756, South Carolina built and garrisoned a fort farther down the river at a more suitable point (the head of navigation), which fort was called Fort Loudoun.

1. Sept. 5, 1755, Governor Dinwiddie had a talk at Williamsburg, in Virginia, with the Son of *Old Hop*, Governor or Emperor of the Cherokees, The Cherokees offering assistance against the Ohio Indians if Virginia would assist the Cherokees with troops and a fort or two in the upper Holston country. [*Dinwiddie Papers II*, 187-188.]

2. March 17, 1756, Colonels Randolph and Byrd had a talk with the Cherokees at Broad River in North Carolina, a treaty was signed, one of the articles of which was that Virginia should build a fort in the Cherokee country, where the sachems and warriors of the nation should direct. [*Virginia Magazine & History, &c.*, XIII, 252-253.]

3. April 24, 1756: instructions of Governor Dinwiddie to Major Andrew Lewis. Major Lewis is to enlist sixty men, proceed to Chota in the Cherokee country, and there take council with the head men about the building of a fort. "Its probable you will meet with a number of men from So. Carolina sent by their governor to assist in the building of a fort." [*Dinwiddie Papers II*, 390.]

4. Aug. 26th, 1756, Governor Dinwiddie has received a letter from Major Lewis, who has finished the fort and without the least assistance from South Carolina. [*Dinwiddie Papers II*, 490.]

5. Sept. 18, 1756. a. Governor Dinwiddie to Governor Lyttleton of South Carolina—"I am glad your assembly has behaved so well and qualified you to build a fort in the upper Cherokee country." as regards the fort set up by Virginia, "we never thought of sending a garrison to it, as it is at so great a distance."

b. Governor Dinwiddie to Governor Dobbs of North Carolina: "South Carolina builds 'em [the Cherokee] another fort on River Tennessee." [*Dinwiddie Papers II*, 508, 510, 511.]

(To be Continued)